

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

REMARKS

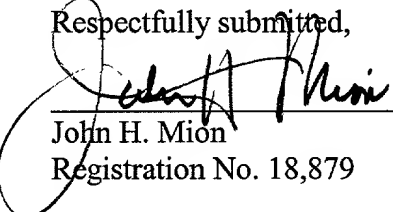
The amendments to specification page 3 are identical to the Article 34 Amendments made to page 2 of the International Application.

The new Abstract is identical to the English-language Abstract in the International Application.

The Article 19 claims have been amended to eliminate all multiple dependent claims (both proper and improper), thereby both eliminating the multiple dependent claim fee and ensuring examination of all claims on the merits in the first Office Action.

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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 3, before line 1, insert the following new paragraphs:

In EP-0 687 134, it has been proposed to produce a miniaturized transformer comprising a laminated magnetic core consisting of a plurality of thin strips linked together by layers of resin. The laminate is cut to the dimensions of the core to be obtained.

US-4 558 247 describes a saturable core comprising a wound strip made of amorphous magnetic alloy and an insulating film inserted between the successive turns of the core.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please insert the attached new page 31 containing an Abstract of the Disclosure as the last page of the application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

4. (Amended) The process as claimed in ~~either of claims 2 and 3~~ Claim 3, characterized in that the plastic film consists of one of the following materials: polyester, polytetrafluoroethylene, polyimide.

5. (Amended) The process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 2 to 4~~ Claim 3, characterized in that one side of the thin brittle metal strip (1) is brought into contact with a first self-adhering polymer film (3), the nanocrystalline strip (1) thus being able to be handled, in that the second side of the thin brittle metal strip (1) is brought into contact with a second film (3') made of a self-adhering plastic, in that pressure is applied to the laminated strip (6) consisting of the thin

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brittle metal strip (1) between the two films of polymer material (3, 3') and in that a mechanical operation, for example a cutting operation, is carried out on the laminated strip (6).

6. (Amended) The process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 2 to 4~~Claim 3, characterized in that a plurality of laminated strips (6, 7a, 7b, 7c) each having a coating layer consisting of a plastic film precoated with a pressure-sensitive adhesive on at least one of its sides are produced, in that the plurality of laminated strips (6, 7a, 7b, 7c) are superposed and joined together by adhesion in order to obtain a laminated composite strip (11) and in that a mechanical operation, for example a cutting operation, is carried out on the laminated composite strip (11).

7. (Amended) The process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 2 to 6~~Claim 3, characterized in that the pressure-sensitive adhesive substance of the self-adhering plastic film precoated with adhesive is a crosslinkable substance and in that a crosslinking heat treatment is carried out on the coating layer adhering to the thin metal strip.

12. (Amended) The process as claimed in ~~either of claims 10 and 11~~Claim 10, characterized in that the reactive adhesive polymer material is deposited on at least one side of the thin metal strip (1) by one of the following processes: coating, spraying, dipping.

13. (Amended) The process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~Claim 1, characterized in that thin brittle metal strip (1) is a strip made of a soft magnetic alloy material having a nanocrystalline structure, that is to say containing at least 50 vol % of fine crystals having a size of less than 100 nm, obtained by casting the soft magnetic material in the form of an amorphous strip and by heat treatment of the amorphous strip, the thin metal strip (1) being covered, in one of its amorphous or nanocrystalline states, on at least one side with a coating layer comprising at least one polymer film.

15. (Amended) The process as claimed in ~~either of claims 13 and 14~~Claim 14, characterized in that the thin strip of nanocrystalline material has a thickness of around 20 μm .

16. (Amended) The process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 13, 14 and 15~~Claim 13, characterized in that the soft magnetic material contains iron, copper, niobium, silicon and boron, or iron, zirconium, boron and possibly copper and silicon.